DOTS Centres for TB Prevention

†2665. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that programme of DOTS centres are being run throughout the country for prevention of T.B. effectively;

(b) if so, whether the whole country has been covered under the said programme;

(c) if not, the names of States alongwith their districts which are still to be covered under the said programme; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to cover the districts which are yet to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP), widely known as DOTS, which is a WHO recommended strategy, with the objective of achieving cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases, is being implemented in the country since year 1997 in a phased manner.

Presently, 1067 million population (96%) of the country has been covered under the DOTS strategy. Only 4 districts of Uttar Pradesh and 18 districts of Bihar, details of which are given below are yet to be covered under the revised strategy.

(i) Uttar Pradesh: Sant Kabir Nagar, Shravasthi, Chitrakoot, Kaushambi.

(ii) Bihar Gopalganj, Kaimur, Lakhisarai, Madhubani, Sheikhpura, Banka, Jamui, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Madhepura, Paschim Champaran, Rohtas, Saharsa, Saran, Sheohar, Sitamarhi, Siwan and Supaul.

These districts are undergoing preparatory activities and the progress in this regard is being monitored regularly. It is expected that these districts would also be covered under DOTS strategy shortly.

Raw Material for bird flu medicine from China

2666. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether China has agreed to export raw material to India to control the migratory bird flu in India;

(b) if so, what medicine shall be made from this raw material and how the bird flu will be controlled;

(c) how Government shall propose to control the flu; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) There is no specific proposal currently under consideration to import raw material to control the migratory bird flu.

No case of Bird Flu (Avian Influenza) has been reported in India either in humans or birds.

For treatment of human cases of Avian Influenza, Oseltamirvir is recommended. An Inter Ministerial Task Force has been constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary (H&FW) to ensure availability of drugs, vaccines and all other aspects for management of Avian influenza in the country. Government of India is procuring one million doses of Oseltamivir.

M/s. Roche of Switzerland already manufacturers the drug Oseltamivir (Tamiflu). Three Indan companies namely M/s. Cipla, M/s. Hetero Drugs and M/s. Ranbaxy have started working on the drug.

Government of India took adequate measures to prevent entry of Avian Influenza in to India and to contain the disease if it has to happen in poultry or humans.

The components of the action plan such as hospital strengthening, Influenza Surveillance Network, Laboratory strengthening in terms of bio-safety labs, personal protective equipments, stockpiling of drugs and Information Education Communication are being taken up in a phased manner at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 70 crores.